



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Christopher D. Casscells et al.

Art Unit : 3739

Serial No. : 09/731,686

Examiner : R. Kearney

Filed : December 5, 2000

Title : ELECTROCAUTERIZING TOOL FOR ORTHOPEDIC SHAFT SERVICES

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231RECEIVED
DEC - 9 2002
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700RESPONSE

In response to the action mailed June 4, 2002, please amend the application as follows:

In the specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 26, with the following rewritten paragraph:

31 The electrical contact 118 can include a brush. The commutator 134 can include a disk.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

32 Shaft 140 is contained within cannula 114, and kept separate from the cannula by inner alignment piece 230. The cannula, inner alignment piece, and shaft are connected at their proximal ends to housing 108 via interconnector 112. Interconnector 112 serves to locate the shaft, inner alignment piece, and cannula. Interconnector 112 includes locking member 216 which is shaped so as to secure the cannula within extended housing portion 208. The locking member also has a notch 212, which is located opposite a detent 210 located on an interior surface of the extended housing portion. The locking member additionally includes outer O-ring seal 206, located between the locking member exterior surface and the extended housing portion interior surface. The extended housing portion includes exterior threads 214A, located so as to be opposite interior threads 214B, which are located on locking ring 218. Located at a proximal end of shaft 140 are commutator 260 and drive coupling 130. Wire 122 delivers power to commutator 260 via interconnector conductor 250, and electrical connector 252. The electrical connector is located such that it is in electrical contact with commutator 260.

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